

Bryan Davies

How the PM's Ruskin song has upped the stakes

The significance, of course, lay in the singer not the song. The Prime Minister's Ruskin speech consisted of little more than a checklist of current educational problems. Nevertheless, as some of my colloquial colleagues are prone to say, "he upped the ante" and Mrs Williams must play for higher stakes. Her response to the great debate will need real content and must lead to definitive action. One suggestion she might consider is to examine carefully the principles on which teachers are paid.

Why is teaching at the chalkface less effective than we would like? Why is a coherent strategy for the 16 to 19 age group so difficult to obtain? Why are we failing to develop a comprehensive system of further and higher education? Why are many colleges and particularly the polytechnics so prone to academic drift? Why is professional elitism so characteristic of the public sector as it is of the private? A major clue to these fundamental questions I contend lies in the unit total points system for allocating resources.

The mechanics of the system are well known and can be described briefly. Schools and colleges receive resources based on numbers of students, the level of work and, in the case of the colleges, the amount of time spent in class contact with the lecturer.

On the basis of fairly precise calculations the levels and numbers of senior posts are fixed. The philosophy underpinning the system is of pristine purity—the higher the level of study the greater the skills demanded of the teacher. This higher or skill is primarily measured not by evaluating the task to be fulfilled, but by the qualifications of the practitioner. Not altogether surprisingly, the teaching profession proves most wedded to the notion of credentialism.

The results are plain to see and disturbing. Many of the most difficult teaching tasks merit the lowest pay. The teacher of 30 non-examination 15-year-olds is on a scale far below his colleague with eight degree-level students. Within advanced-level colleges the lecturer involved in substantial amounts of evening work meets the needs of part-time students, receives not a penny more than his colleague with a comfortable ten-to-four timetable.

Of course colleges can seek to distribute the burdens equitably: to concentrate on the full-time courses which remove the problem. Thus the present system actively militates against the development of a two-tier system.

They have been a major instrument of a most rapid expansion of higher education opportunity. The development of their new courses has been pursued by staff concurrently engaged on full-time teaching programmes.

Unlike the new universities of the 1960s the polytechnics were offered no opportunities to develop their academic programmes unencumbered by teaching responsibilities. Moreover, the polytechnics have in many cases preserved and extended their educational commitment to the sandwich course. They have maintained levels of links with their local communities that most universities could ever consider and they continue to provide a range of more vocationally orientated courses which reflect their origins in the further education sector.

Nevertheless the evidence is clear

that polytechnics have succumbed to academic drift. Concentration on degree-level work has proceeded apace. The original concept of the comprehensive institution requested by students pursuing courses at many different levels has not been realized.

Increasingly polytechnic aspirations lie in espousing university status, severing local authority links, uniting higher education under national or possibly regional control and reducing the ties with further education. Many regard the process as both inevitable and desirable, fulfilling the Robbins belief that these relatively new aspirant institutions would graduate to the university clubs.

I would count myself among that substantial number, including many polytechnic staff, who regard these developments as a betrayal of the important and distinctive policies originally defined for them.

Mrs Shirley Williams could usefully ponder this situation. Mr Callaghan raised some basic issues where solution requires a fundamental evaluation of present trends in further and higher education. Objectives are not attained by merely being expressed in ministerial speeches, but by careful attention directed to the factors influencing the implementation of policy. While recognizing that winning the teaching profession's support is a task of great value, she should not underestimate the extent to which commitment follows where the individual pay cheque leads. At present the teachers pay structure conflicts with key objectives of government policy.

It is totally unrealistic to expect part-time education to flourish under a system which rewards the easier build-up of a full-time student body. It is equally unrealistic to halt academic drift in the further and higher education sectors while paying substantially discriminating rates for higher level work. It is also to expect concentration on good teaching while at every level the good teacher profits only by withdrawal from the classroom. In institutions supposedly committed to an emphasis on teaching, promotion automatically reduces the successful teacher's class contact commitment.

The suggestion has already been widely canvassed that the Secretary of State may review her survey of her 13 points for achieving economies in educational expenditure in the 1980s and assess their relevance to the present position. Mrs Williams might with greater profit return to another debate which was current in the same period—how to reward good teaching rather than high paper qualifications or administrative expertise.

The problems of course are formidable. The next pay round is likely to be accompanied by greater emphasis on the need to explore alternative methods of financing education.

Embodied local authorities will be seeking themselves for another struggle on the familiar terrain of recent Burnham awards. Mrs Williams, however, should recognize that now is the time to take the initiative if she wishes to see major shifts in educational emphasis.

In the council issue of teachers' pay she needs to enter the debate early to have any hope of success in promoting a fresh perspective. It is a formidable challenge.

What is clear however is that unless the fundamental issue of ensuring that rewards go to those engaged on the most difficult teaching tasks is tackled with vigour and become little more than ministerial aspirations.

The author is Labour MP for Huddon North.

Principal permits failed students to finish course

by Frances Gibb

Three students at University College of Wales, Cardiff, who twice failed papers in their part-one exams are to be allowed to continue their courses after the principal rescinded the examinations board decision that they should renew the first year.

Dr C. W. Bevan's decision was approved by the college senate this week after a lengthy discussion, in which some non-professional staff in the faculty of economic and social studies failed to persuade senate to condemn the principal's action.

The senate agreed that students should be allowed to proceed with their courses on "humanitarian grounds". The details of their cases were not discussed and the motion criticising the principal not put to a vote.

It also regretted the principal had been put in such an awkward position and urged steps to ensure this did not happen again.

The students, in the faculty of economic and social studies, had been required to repeat their first year after two had failed one paper for the second time and a third had failed two papers. Two had scored less than 35 per cent and

the third 35 and 38 per cent. They had not put forward any special evidence or circumstances.

One student then wrote to the principal complaining that the rules of the faculty were unjust. The principal upheld the students' complaint and instructed the dean to ask the department heads to allow the students to proceed to part two on the understanding that the senate approved the decision.

Dr Bevan said the examination procedures drawn up last year by the faculty left no room for compensation for marginal failure. "Students are required to pass all papers, and even if they pass all but one with 100 per cent and fail the other by one per cent, they would still fail."

This had been drawn to his attention by a reasoned appeal from one of the students, he said. On looking at the information he had found that the three candidates' papers were saved but "in any other faculty of economics or the world they would have passed."

Lecturers in the faculty said the decision had enormous implications both for the part-one examination procedures and for their relationships with students in the faculty.

Poly lecturers may withhold cooperation over new staff

by Sue Reid

Lecturers at Middlesex Polytechnic are threatening not to cooperate with the interviewing and appointment of new research staff following the dismissal of a £2,500-a-year research assistant at the college's Enfield site.

The lecturers, members of the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education, are protesting over the weak contractual position of research staff which, they claim, has been the subject of a long-running dispute.

The dismissal of the research assistant, who has been employed at the college for four years, has come after a review of the research work at the college earlier this year. In July the assistant was told that her contract would be terminated and two research fellows were also warned that their posts might be in jeopardy.

Mr Grenville Wall, chairman of the NATFHE at the polytechnic, said this week that the decision to sack the assistant was on the basis of an unprecedented interpretation of her conditions of service.

He added that the work of the assistant, who was completing research into water resources, was of great value. The NATFHE is now considering whether to take the case to an industrial tribunal.

But Dr Raymond Rickett, the polytechnic's director, told *The Times* this week that there had been no sackings at the college. "The research assistant concerned is employed on a standard temporary contract. Such a contract normally lasts between two and four years and in this case the contract had run for the full four years."

The polytechnic's joint education committee heard the assistant's appeal last month but decided not to renew her contract. She is now due to leave the college in December.

Dr Rickett said there was nothing unprecedented about a contract termination at the end of a period agreed by the parties involved. He rejected a claim by the NATFHE that he was trying to reduce the numbers of research staff currently employed to make way for a new research policy.

Mrs Williams calms fears on overseas students entry rules

Mrs Williams, the Secretary for Education, this week discounted fears that rules governing the entry of overseas students to courses in polytechnics and colleges are to be tightened.

She told the House of Commons that a draft circular on the admission of students which appears to have been leaked to the press and embassies abroad "is a wide discretion in judging the suitability of students was only a consultation document. She hinted that she did not necessarily agree with the circular's implication that colleges be given a "policing role" in immigration matters.

Her comments were made after publication in *The Guardian* of a draft circular issued by the Department of Education and the Home Office in August, which aimed to clarify the consequences for overseas students in Britain of the 1971 Immigration Act.

It was sent to the United Kingdom Council for Overseas Student Affairs for its comments. The circular, which has not been issued formally, has not been or colleges, lays down in detail the kind of documents colleges should issue to intending students. The sections which this week provoked

hostile comment from the National Union of Students and the World University Service, concern the entry certificate procedure, the power of immigration officials to refuse students and the circular's "officially recommended" by their home governments.

The circular, which applies mainly to Indian, Bangladesh and Pakistani students, says: "The already well publicized in Commonwealth countries and the great majority of their students already take advantage of it. But colleges would have a substantial measure of assurance that applications from students who are referred applicants for places to the country of origin before accepting them."

The officer can then check that the applicant's documentary evidence is valid, that it meets the requirements laid down by the college for the course of study and that the proposed course is not clearly beyond his capacity, having regard in particular to his command of English."

UCCA finds new boom in classics

Classics and engineering have over from sociology and the latest figures for 1977 Admissions.

The overall increase in university applications this year—has not been distributed between subjects, it says.

There have been increases in applications for classics, law, engineering, architecture, veterinary medicine, management studies and vocational applications.

Other subjects with increases which have not been reflected in the figures for all engineering subjects, dentistry, biology and arts. There is a drop in applications for mathematics.

English and history are growth subjects, but only their numbers. Physics and chemistry continue to decline, now joined by sociology, social and vocational studies.

So far about one fifth of the expected total number of students have applied. Present estimates will be 150,000, compared with 142,000 last year.

'Postgraduate will top £1k

Postgraduate students will be more than £1,000 a year, Dr Keith Humphreys, of the Conservative party education committee, predicted.

The amount to be paid a day's prices would be £1,400, which would mean a 10 per cent increase in fees over last year's proposed levels of £1,200 (undergraduates) and £1,000 (postgraduates).

NELP ends jobs freeze

A freeze on appointments has been threatened to leave work students' incomes slashed at the National Education Labour Party.

A meeting of the joint education committee of the London polytechnics and the NELP, which fund that make the appointments in the present financial year, ended with the NELP should end staff and teaching lecturers.

PNL enrolls 3,682 students

Student recruitment at the Polytechnic of North London rose six per cent this autumn, according to a survey by the PNL with 1975. To date 3,682 students have enrolled and with further enrolments term and next total numbers reach 4,000.

NEXT WEEK

Profile of Martin Gilbert
Peter Wilby on Asian education
Problems of Dutch higher education
Iain Wright reviews a new book by F. R. Leavis.

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Lecturers on the march to protest against recent reduction in education spending.

30 colleges must go says Mrs Williams

by Judith Judd

A new strategy for teacher-training and a further dramatic decrease in the number of institutions carrying it out were suggested by the Government this week.

Mrs Williams, Secretary of State for Education, said the contraction of the system to 45,000 places outside universities by 1981 would mean another 30 institutions would have to stop initial training. It has already been decided that the 163 teacher-training institutions should be reduced to 100 by 1981.

She said that the Government's new strategy for teacher-training would be a two-pronged attack. It would involve a reduction in the number of institutions carrying it out, and a reduction in the number of places available for training.

The new strategy outlined in the paper is two-pronged. It is argued that flexibility should be achieved by integrating DEET courses with those leading to other degrees or the DipTfE, and in postgraduate training.

It is also suggested that there should be "a minimum teacher training system capable of considerable expansion over a relatively short period."

The Government believes that 45,000 places should be capable of expansion to 60,000 should the need arise in the future. This would be achieved by a reduction in the number of institutions carrying it out, and a reduction in the number of places available for training.

Some institutions would clearly be more capable of sustaining such expansion than others and the paper contains a list of the institutions most likely to be vulnerable in the next round of mergers and closures.

Agencies will only be able to expand output by altering the balance of their work from initial training to postgraduate training.

New columnists in the THES

Our new columnists will start writing for *The Times Higher Education Supplement* this term. Professor Ralf Dahrendorf, director of the London School of Economics and a former member of the EEC Commission in Brussels, will be writing the 'European' column.

Professor Martin Trov, professor of sociology at the University of California at Berkeley and joint author with A. H. Halsey of *The British Academics*, will be writing the 'Academic' column.

Mr Jim Porter, principal of Brunel College of Higher Education and a former member of the James Committee on teacher education, will be writing the 'Teacher' column.

Action week starts national drive against the cuts

by Sue Reid

A strengthened national campaign against the Government's proposed £1,272m cuts in education spending over the next three years was launched this week by the Council for Educational Advance and the south-east regional council of the Trades Union Congress.

The campaign, centered around a national education week staged by CEA and a week of action organized by the TUC, culminated in a mass meeting in London on Wednesday of trade union and CEA delegates.

At the meeting Mr Laurie Sapper, general secretary of the Association of University Teachers, was to warn that the actual size of public expenditure was grossly exaggerated by the Government.

His illustration of this theme was to point out that the present recurrent grant to the universities of £581m represented a net cost to the Government of only £400m after "clawing back" staff taxes and national insurance contributions had been taken into account.

Mr Sapper planned to highlight the validity of university research which, he claims, has earned industry £100m in recent years. This was also, he claimed, a joint statement issued this week by the London regions of the AUT and the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education.

It called for support for the week of action and added: "At the very time when the Government is emphasizing the importance of increased investment in industry it is ensuring that there will be insufficient trained manpower to utilize this investment. At the very time when the Government is industry for greater innovation in industry, research potential is being undermined."

The latest estimates of the Government cuts released by the AUT show that expenditure is to be cut by £101m in real terms in the current year, by £422m in 1977-78 and by £743m in 1978-79. By 1979 education will represent only 11 per cent of total public expenditure but will bear 25 per cent of the planned cuts.

NUS wins one and loses one

by Peter Wilby and Frances Gibb

The score for the National Union of Students over the past week is: one gain, one loss. The gain was Aston University, Birmingham, where after a two-hour general meeting, the students voted to go back into the NUS by 603 votes to 454.

Further inquiries revealed that Aston had never left in the first place, so they were really voting to stay in. What happened was that the students had already voted last year but, since the following year's affiliation fees had already been paid, the disaffiliation would not take place until the end of this year.

Last year's vote for disaffiliation was 855 to 532. THES calculations

revealed a pre-NUS swing of 15 per cent, on a slightly reduced poll.

Aston's Guild president and leader of the anti-NUS campaign, Mr Ian Adams, resigned during the summer for what are described as "personal reasons". His successor, Mr L. Brian, said: "I am pleased we are going back in. If we stayed out, we would have become a backwater."

Mr Peter Ashby, the NUS Deputy President, and Mr Steve Moon, the solitary Tory on the national executive, both applauded the meeting in favour of affiliation.

The only significant unions in England now outside the NUS are Lady Mabel College of Education, Sheffield, and Downing College,

4 universities in revolt over fee rise proposals

The governing bodies of four universities are protesting against the Government's proposals to increase tuition fees in 1977-78.

The senators of Southampton, Lancaster and Leicester universities have passed motions condemning the proposals and the council at Aston University has expressed great concern.

The vice-chancellors of Aston and Leicester have written or intend to write personal letters to the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals or the Secretary of State in an attempt to secure a modification of the proposed increases. The CVCP is to raise the question when it meets the Secretary of State within the next two weeks.

The motion passed overwhelmingly at Southampton said the university had great misgivings about the fee increase because of the personal hardship for private students who had embarked on courses having made certain financial assumptions and who would be unable to finish.

Postgraduates would be affected, overseas students restricted and access to university education reduced, it said.

Lancaster University senate said it was opposed to the proposed increases because they would impose even more restrictions on entry into higher education for overseas students and self-financing home students, and those from less wealthy backgrounds.

It urged the council to ensure that the state aid fund was kept at a level which would enable the university to give adequate aid to students in difficulty.

It also rejected proposals for an overseas students' quota in line with government proposals that numbers should remain at their present 60,000 to 70,000.

At Aston, the university council expressed particular concern over students' half-way through their courses. Mr Douglas Porter, the university planning officer, said the university had agreed to increase the hardship fund over the money available from the University Grants Committee for this purpose. This could involve spending £2 of university money for every £1 the UGC gave.

The vice-chancellor had written to the secretary of state pointing out the serious impact proposals on research could have by deterring self-supporting students.

Students of particular concern to Leicester's senate included self-financing teachers on advanced education courses, some self-financing students, and those who had financed themselves for the first two years in order to qualify for grants, and overseas and self-financed students on taught MSc courses.

Cambridge, last week's NUS loss. Three unions, Scotland have disaffiliated recently—Edinburgh University, St Andrew's and Strathclyde, this joining Glasgow, which has never been a member.

Mr Moon's enthusiasm for the NUS ("my election to the executive has shown that there is a role in the union for non-left points of view") is not shared by all conservatives. The Downing decision, taken by 73 votes to 21, was supported by the college's Tory-dominated executive.

Mr Michael Statham, the president, said the decision was taken more for economic than for political reasons: it would save the college £500 in affiliation fees.

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somehow, all the pieces can be found and biography has to be read because it is made to fit. (In addition to his other labours, too.

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Part-time discrimination

The present student grant regulations have become a morass of anomalies. The boundary between mandatory and discretionary grants is arbitrary in theory and capricious in practice. The attitudes of local education authorities to applications for discretionary grants are inconsistent. And the effects of present grant arrangements appear at times to be quite contrary to the declared educational and economic goals of the Government.

In the golden past when local authorities looked sympathetically on applications for discretionary grants, and before the Open University and the polytechnics had got under way when the vast (or at any rate the visible) majority of students in higher education were entitled to receive mandatory awards, these anomalies were to some extent concealed. Now a series of new developments—the squeeze on local government spending, the increase in tuition fees, the introduction of new courses such as the Diploma in Higher Education—has exposed them in a harsh and glaring light. The detailed problems are too numerous to list here, but they have just received the DfHE find that the institutions in which they hope to continue their studies will not allow them one year's credit for their achievement, while their local authorities, the providers of grants, regard it as equivalent to two years of a degree. Holders of post-A-level qualifications such as the State Registered Nurse (SRN) find that they are not eligible for a manda-

Quality before quantity

The Government's renewed pledge to increase drastically the number of teachers in in-service training in the next five years has understandably been greeted with scepticism by union officials and college lecturers.

It is true that Mr Gordon Oakes, Minister of State for Education, confirmed the Government's commitment to such training only a fortnight ago, and that a Department of Education and Science paper presented to the Supply and Training of Teachers this week envisages 10,000 teachers in in-service training by 1981.

The question nobody has answered yet is where the money is to come from. There are currently around 1,000 teachers on secondment and the cost is between £3m and £4m. The target suggested this week falls far short of the originally proposed 12,500, but the sums of money involved are considerable.

It is difficult to see how a depressed local authorities can pay for this. Even where the will is

The cost of diversification

The trouble with what can be called "the third force" in higher education—the institutes and colleges of higher education—is neatly summed up by Mr William Gutteridge in an article on page 13. There are too many courses, chasing too few students, and the result is a wasteful and unbalanced system. The balance of institutions created by diversification is almost certainly wrong. Leaving aside the handful of colleges academically strong enough to survive in the Division of Higher Education, the polytechnic sector is a vast wasteland of courses, many of which are of a quality which is barely adequate for the needs of the country. The polytechnic sector is a vast wasteland of courses, many of which are of a quality which is barely adequate for the needs of the country.

Now a most damaging situation is in danger of being created. Resources which would otherwise have gone to develop the core of higher education—the universities and the polytechnics (and colleges) are being diverted to support a vast number of courses which are of a quality which is barely adequate for the needs of the country. The polytechnic sector is a vast wasteland of courses, many of which are of a quality which is barely adequate for the needs of the country.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

New academic right

Sir—I read with interest Dr Bradley's article on young right-wing academics and intellectuals (*THE TIMES*, October 29). The trend he perceives may, perhaps, be the tip of a far larger iceberg.

When I first went up to university in 1971 there were political activists among the undergraduates of both the left and right. The left were more vociferous, the right more demure. But looking at the non-activist section of the undergraduate population (the majority) I felt that, following our predecessors of the 1960s, we were, if anything, left of centre, believing in high government expenditure, low unemployment and generally sharing the belief in the growth of the "liberal corporate state" whatever that was.

By the time I had left that university, after time as both undergraduate and graduate, this year, I felt that the "uncommitted" (as opposed to the "don't knows" or the "don't cares") were now a different breed. The optimism of the 1960s had, in the last couple of years, given way to disillusionment if not cynicism.

The verdict appeared to be a subtle shift away from the left of centre toward the right. Hair got shorter. Shirts decreased. Official Labour clubs declined whilst the Conservative Association thrived. More significantly, in the Junior Common Room elections the tendency was to elect those who preferred the status quo, or, at least, those who proclaimed themselves apolitical and only interested in "community politics" (washing machines, food, college cats) nevertheless adopted a right-wing as opposed to a radical position.

The passion went out of university politics as the many-piece suits took over. The wheel had turned 180 degrees. It was even argued that undergraduates actually saved the seat of a Conservative MP in February 1974.

This was no right-wing coup, financed by the Central Office and "elegant" champagne receptions. It merely seemed to mirror what the undergraduates wanted. Affluence and cheated expectations had

Convinced by all means have a Conservative philosophy and let Oxford dons help formulate it if they must, but if thinking people are to be attracted to it, it must remain the firm opponent of ideological dogma.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY LILES,
School of Social Sciences,
Brunel University.

French industry
Sir—While generally in agreement with your leading article "Help industry" (*THE TIMES*, October 29), I have some comments to make on your remarks about France.

What form would a serious and useful study of Leavis and Leavisism take? How would one begin to frame an account which would make sense of the part of Leavis and Leavisism which is of interest to the French student of English literature? The answer is that it would be a study of the kind of which Leavis himself was capable. It would be a study of the kind of which Leavis himself was capable.

Of a total enrolment of 225 students in October, 1975, 14 students were ultimately failed by the faculty examination board in September, 1976. Of these, one candidate failed to prevent himself for examination at all; three more were repeat candidates who had failed in a previous year. All failed because their performance was below the modest standard indicated above, though clearly the margin of failure was in some cases only.

The principal's discretionary action is no solution to the problem of marginal failure. A college rule forbids the disclosure of examination marks. But if the faculty's part-time examinations are to be of any use, they must show that the candidates are not merely failing, but are failing in a way which is of interest to the French student of English literature.

Part-time examinations here are first held in June of each year. No candidate can fail part one as a candidate who June fails one paper by not less than 35 per cent passes part one provided his other marks show adequate compensation.

All candidates who do not pass June have the right to re-sit their failed papers in September. The best marks obtained in June and September are then taken together and the pass mark is set at 35 per cent. A candidate who fails in June and September is held at 40 per cent. A candidate who fails in June and September is held at 40 per cent. A candidate who fails in June and September is held at 40 per cent.

There are no compulsory courses in part one in this faculty. A student finding himself unable to pass an unconsolidated course or courses has an ample opportunity to make his own choice of subjects. Having made his choice, the student pursues his studies with reasonable diligence. The minimum acceptable failure is designed to prevent a candidate from abandoning a course out of personal whim. As all readers of the journal will know, 35 per cent is a guarantee of a good pass.

In both June and September, candidates are notified that they or their advisers may draw special circumstances to the attention of their examiners. Examination boards have complete discretion to adjust marks because of special circumstances thus coming to light. To the best of my knowledge not one of the three candidates selected by the Principal Board availed himself of this opportunity.

Yours faithfully,
ROY E. JONES,
Faculty of Economic and Social Studies,
University College,
Cardiff.

Vetting students

Sir—On behalf of the Academic Freedom and Discontinuation of the Government's proposed policy of vetting students to be admitted to colleges, by means of a "background check" on their political views, I am writing to you.

If this policy is implemented it will be a breach of the existing record of the United Kingdom High Commission in London.

Immigration officials to Third countries seeking entry to the United Kingdom and again, one of the five affected by the "chilling index" of the "background check" on their political views, I am writing to you.

It will attack the existing record of the United Kingdom High Commission in London. It will attack the existing record of the United Kingdom High Commission in London.

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On the social responsibility of literature



Iain Wright discusses the reasons for F. R. Leavis's continuing influence

T. S. Eliot, I. A. Richards and Queen's Leavisism. Eliot was at first predominant. The Preface to *New Bearings in English Poetry* (1932) describes the book as "largely an acknowledgement of indebtedness to a certain critic and poet" (clearly Eliot) and the same could be said of *Scrutiny* and *Scrutiny* (1936). Both works are in effect brilliant extrapolations of some rather casually-formulated remarks of Eliot's into a completely critical map of the history of English poetry. But Eliot, even before his conversion, was not likely to be useful to Leavis in the clarification of his wider cultural anxieties. Eliot was deeply sceptical of the social utility of teaching literature and suspicious of cultural crusades.

Here I. A. Richards had the key role to play. Later, as the social crisis of the thirties deepened, Leavis came to rely on Richards. Richards' excesses, the fantastic hopes that "poetry" will remake our minds and with them our world, as unrealistic as they are, are likely to lead to a highly selective view of literary history. In the very early days this selectiveness was exhilarating and even heroic. But as the thirties progressed, it became a self-righteous, self-satisfied, and self-deluding. It was a self-righteous, self-satisfied, and self-deluding. It was a self-righteous, self-satisfied, and self-deluding.

Offering itself as an "anthropological" work, it promises to "state the bare facts and suggest relations and causes without involving value-judgments." But in fact the centre of the book is a blatantly biased and thoroughly convincing jeremiad against the triviality of modern pulp fiction and the advertising industry. Seeking to explain the phenomenon, Mrs Leavis then moves back to seek its roots in the history of the reading public. The errors of this part of the discussion are as spectacular as its conclusions are spec-

tacular and impudent as the successes of the other. Under the pressure of her urgent need to demonstrate that there is a direct correlation between the growth of a mass reading public and the decline of standards, she is not only led into some extraordinary errors of literary judgement (Dickens being a "popular" nineteenth-century writer, can be seen only as a symptom of degeneration; among other "here facts" we are told that "Dickens stands primarily for a set of crude emotional exercises" not only uneducated but also immature.) She is also forced to play fast and loose with the historical evidence, particularly when seeking to establish the local argument that there was in the eighteenth century a "homogeneous reading public" which has since disintegrated. (This is simply untrue, of course, the best of the criticism. But that would be too simple an explanation: the root, surely, is in the emotional satisfaction that Leavis's dream of the socially regenerative role of criticism offers to professional teachers of its portraiture of the past, a portrait which Mrs Leavis simply ignores can easily be used to show.)

Nevertheless, and despite its obvious flaws as a piece of history, it was from *Fiction and the Reading Public*, which is a portrait of the past, a portrait which Mrs Leavis simply ignores can easily be used to show. Nevertheless, and despite its obvious flaws as a piece of history, it was from *Fiction and the Reading Public*, which is a portrait of the past, a portrait which Mrs Leavis simply ignores can easily be used to show.

Leavis draws heavily on her husband's PhD thesis on the development of journalism (which Hayman has not read); but this book seems to have codified the notion, and from then on the notion of the "organic community" was generally regarded by the Scrutinists as demonstrated historical fact. The effects run very deep. The "homogeneous reading public" had a close and equally unhelpful relative, the "organic community", which was soon to become Leavis's historiography. His own, enormously influential *Culture and Environment* (1956) was written with Thompson in 1933, with its astonishing reliance on George Sturt's and Stuart Chase's sentimentalizations of English and Mexican rural life, and even more on his wife's book. Like her book, it also fails to face the most obvious and unpalatable implication of its own argument: that it is mass literacy which is the chief agent of degeneration.

These historical myths permeate Leavis's entire oeuvre, informing the details of his close textual criticism. It was inevitable that they should inform his account of literary history, which comes a sort of memorial rite, in the fallen world, to man's lost wholeness, the critic a priest who enables us to maintain continuity with the past. The "organic community" was a myth, a myth of the past, a myth of the past. The "organic community" was a myth, a myth of the past, a myth of the past.

What was particularly attractive about this creed, and what accounts, I think, for the breadth of its appeal, was that it was never made clear that one was committed to a "life" (that is, following Leavis, in dead, pre- or post-factum aspects of the whole New Organism, *Scrutiny*), in their language must be concrete, show a "firm grasp of the actual" (close to the veridical), and must be "morally serious" and "exhibit a shameful self-abandonment to undisciplined emotion" (Mrs Leavis on Charlotte Brontë). But it was never made clear that one was committed to a "life" (that is, following Leavis, in dead, pre- or post-factum aspects of the whole New Organism, *Scrutiny*), in their language must be concrete, show a "firm grasp of the actual" (close to the veridical), and must be "morally serious" and "exhibit a shameful self-abandonment to undisciplined emotion" (Mrs Leavis on Charlotte Brontë).

Donald Davie, in a curiously confused place in the *YL* (October 1), has described Leavis as "the god that failed" (thus rather neatly encapsulating the paradox that the Leavisian notion of culture was a moral substitute both for religious faith, along Arnold's lines, and for Marxism). We shall need a more penetrating analysis than Mr Hayman can offer if we are to fully understand both his theology and the early history of his church.

The author is lecturer in English at Cambridge, and a fellow of Queens' College.

BOOKS

Mrs Woolf v. Mrs Brown

Bloomsbury Heritage: The Mothers and Their Aunts by Elizabeth French Boyd. Pp. 192. £4.95. ISBN 0 241 89406 9

Moments of Being by Virginia Woolf. Edited by Jeanne Schulkind. Sussex University Press, £4.80. ISBN 0 85621 050 1

Virginia Woolf gave a false impression of her own art in "Mr Bennett and Mrs Brown", an essay which has been part of the staple diet of generations of students. In it she compares herself to the Edwardian novelists who set out to describe Mrs Brown, the ordinary woman in the railway carriage who is the archetypal subject of all fiction. Woolf concludes her statement of modernist principles with the ringing declaration: "never, never to desert Mrs Brown".

Yet it would seem that all her own best fiction has an autobiographical basis, and that as an artist she was wholly indifferent to the Mrs Browns of this life. She is at the opposite pole from Arnold Bennett, who conceived *The Old Wives' Tale* as the result of a chance encounter of the railway-carriage type. It may be no accident that there are so many memoirs of the Bloomsbury Group, and so few of the Edwardians. Self-preoccupation was endemic in Bloomsbury, which spawned a Memoir Club as the innermost expression of its ethos. When the Nazi invasion threatened this country, the Group discussed a suicide pact as an appropriate response.

One wonders what the Anglo-Indian mothers and aunts evoked in Bloomsbury. Heritage would have

thought about this. The lives of these women, the best-known of whom is Julia Margaret Cameron, the Victorian photographer, were certainly worth recalling. For Virginia Woolf specialists there are chapters on the novelist's mother and on her great-aunts, the famous Pattle sisters. We see both the rich social experience and the personal suffering which was the lot of the Stephen children.

Elizabeth French Boyd's book is overshadowed, however, by *Moments of Being*, a selection of previously unpublished autobiographical essays in which Virginia Woolf not only tells some of the more recent events of her life, but also reveals a new side to her creative gifts. The core of the book is the remarkable "A Sketch of the Past", written in 1939-40 and describing the Stephen family life from her earliest memories to the eye of her father's death in 1903. The pages dissecting the men of the family and the values they represented reveal the kind of generalised social intelligence which all the great novelists have possessed. The puzzle is that, possessing such a gift, Virginia Woolf should have so often disregarded it as a writer of fiction.

Moments of Being, then, is a major addition to the Virginia Woolf canon, and one that may lead to a considerable reassessment of her final period. The book is a credit to both editor and publisher. I should like to add one last plea. "A Sketch of the Past" was written at intervals of respite from the author's troublesome biography of Roger Fry. Surely the present level of interest in Bloomsbury is sufficient to justify a new edition of this indispensable and much-maligned work?

Patrick Parrinder

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Longman

Intentionalist backlash

The Aims of Interpretation by E. D. Hirsch, Jr. University of Chicago Press, £6.80. ISBN 0 226 34240 9

Professor Hirsch describes himself as "a representative of general hermeneutics", and it will be rightly inferred that these essays on problems of interpretation and judgment in literary criticism are not easy reading. He writes in a style stiff with abstractions, descending perhaps from Kant, and it is only with difficulty that what he says can be related to the concerns of ordinary readers or writers, since he rarely uses concrete examples and never discusses any particular literary work in detail. He is, in short, a theoretician writing for other theoreticians, philosophers or Continental critics. Evaluation is presupposed, familiarity with, for instance, the views of Heidegger, Gadamer, Baeck, Dilthey, Schleiermacher. . . . The less erudite will find themselves in the middle of an abstruse argument of which the antecedents remain to the end rather obscure.

But some themes of general interest do emerge. At the centre is Hirsch's conviction that the Intentional Fallacy is not a fallacy. He begins by setting out his view that, contrary to some fashionable talk, there is such a thing as a correct interpretation of a poem, which has some degree of objectivity independent of the critic's personal bias, cultural environment, or historical perspective. But what is the criterion of correctness? Hirsch answers that it is the author's intention, or as he prefers to put it, "original meaning". In many cases this can be known, and it is the duty of the critic to try to find out what it is.

This view, of course, is not new, but Hirsch finds new ways of recommending it, among them this one: "Unless there is a powerful

overriding value in disregarding an author's intention (ie, original meaning), we who interpret as a vocation should not disregard it." The novelty here lies in the "should", which is ethical. We have a moral duty not to use an author's words for our own purposes without respecting his intention, just as we transgress ethical norms when we use another person merely for our own ends (Hirsch has Kant's ethical views in mind).

Thus to the critics who dismiss the author's intention Hirsch lays an ad hominem restraint ready. "When you write a piece of criticism, do you want me to disregard your intention and original meaning? Why do you ask me to honour the ethics of language for your writings when you do not honour them for the writings of others?"

The quick answer to this is that critical essays are not poems, and the language of literary texts is not such as to warrant univocal ascriptions of intention in the way that theirs is. But Hirsch would reject that answer. "No literary theorist since Coleridge," he says, "has succeeded in formulating a viable distinction between the nature of ordinary written speech and the nature of literary written speech."

And later he dismisses the common phrases "literature as art" and "literature as poetry", etc, as empty. No line can be drawn around "literature". Hence he defends the eclecticism, now increasingly common in universities, in the choice for study of different kinds of texts, including scientific and mimetic, both cultural documents and works of art. And the practical consequence of his views would be to make biographical and historical inquiries central to literary studies. Hirsch argues his case well. But he now seeks to renege the force of the distinction between the genres of a poem and its meaning. The meaning of a poem

is a function of a unique set of circumstances created by the poet. To look for it in the text is to reverse the process by which poetry comes into being. Phrases like "considered a literature" are at best a fiction; they are supposed to be evidence for his intention. But it is easy to see what Hirsch is doing. He is using a poem as a poem, and not as a private document, to argue a case for his intention. And such evidence for his intention is not acceptable. Hirsch says, there is a "private document" which is the poet's intention. But many of us might agree that what has survived is not the poet's intention, but his times. To read a poem in its times, and to know, distort and to know, general, undistorted, is what it might mean to read.

Hirsch is a distinguished man for a distinguished man. At a time when so much irresponsibility in criticism and literary studies is at hand, there should be one. Hirsch is right to be concerned for the future of criticism and cultural studies. He should be firmly directed from questions about the nature of poems to the nature of the strong points, but his empirical, that was modern, and his cultural studies, and his successors, Hirsch's distinction of this matter is an interesting contribution to the debate that has been going on.

W. E. Ash

BOOKS

The cult of valour

Coriolanus by Philip Brockbank. Methuen, £7.00 and £1.50. ISBN 0 416 17870 7 and 17880 4

Shakespeare's Coriolanus by Brian Vickers. Edward Arnold, £1.25. ISBN 0 7131 5860 3

Shakespeare's Rome: Republic and Empire by Paul A. Cantor. Cornell University Press, £8.75. ISBN 0 8014 0967 5

Philip Brockbank's *Coriolanus* comes out just 25 years after Kenneth Muir's *Marston's* in the new series of Arden editions. It is a most welcome addition to an indispensable series and I hope we may soon see the whole venture completed. As the years have passed, the editors originally appointed for some plays have died and have been succeeded by scholars of a younger generation. Taste changes in editions of Shakespeare's plays in every thing else, and if the remaining editions do not appear soon, they will find themselves being lapped by their successors in the third series.

Professor Brockbank's account of the stage-history of the play is interesting and valuable, recording the fortunes of the revivals and the editions which have made *Coriolanus* part of the political history of Europe. The German section is fascinating. I had not known that the Americans had banned the play in the early days of the Occupation. It seems a paradox that a play in which all the characters are repellent and all the poetry magnificent should arouse such strident political partisanship among critics, audiences and commonly, but it does.

As we can identify with no one, I suppose we identify with the issues. Brockbank's introduction avoids political prejudice altogether. The critical section is a sensitive exploration of this subtle and equivocal play's moments, closely attentive to word and image, and moving to a fine conclusion on the treatment of sacrifice in the Roman plays. *Coriolanus* dies for a city that made no use of his cult of valour, and died because his life had exhausted the possibilities of that uncompromising mode of virtue.

Brian Vickers's view of *Coriolanus* as a victim of his own sentimentalism. He describes him as being "pressured" by everybody, used by cynical patriots and by Aufidius, manipulated by the tribunes ("like robbing a blind man"), betrayed by his mother and his wife. A boy of genius indeed. Brockbank's sensitivity to the feelings, and especially the sufferings of others, is illustrated by his address to Aufidius, "City, 'tis I that made thy widows", and by "his desire to repay the poor man to Coriolanus who helped his help and had once helped him". I am certain that those whom Professor Vickers's essay is intended to help will see more clearly how ambiguous both these moments in the play are.

I have pondered on the strangeness of Vickers's use of Hobbes as evidence against critics "who attack Coriolanus for wanting revenge on Rome". He gives the impression of paraphrasing Hobbes when he says that a man who has been cast out of society because he cannot fit in "no longer owes any services to his country". The illustrative quotation which follows is from *Leviathan*, part 2, chapter 28: "For a banished man is a lawful enemy of the commonwealth that banished him; as being no member of the same." The drift of Hobbes's argument is that

a community may lawfully treat an exile as an enemy and punish him, and I do not see how his words can be made to mean the opposite of that.

Paul Cantor's study of Shakespeare's Rome sets up a polarity between *Coriolanus* and Antony and Cleopatra. The Rome of *Coriolanus*, with its austerity and valour, is the world of "spiritedness", with Antony and Cleopatra we are in the world of "eros". *Coriolanus* leaves the restrictiveness of the city for a world elsewhere but finds no haven. Antony, in a cityless world, liberated from the old restrictions, is unable to carve out his spiritual destiny. There is rather too much system in this book, and if Cantor is indeed examining "Shakespeare's knowledge and understanding of Rome" his decision to exclude a study of *Julius Caesar* is disabling.

Both Cantor and Vickers write with a contempt for the pollution of political struggle, and see *Coriolanus* as a hero because he rejects a corrupt society and to affirm the authenticity of his own values. Brockbank is a good deal more cautious and gives a paragraph on the crucial lines:

You common cry of curs I whose breath I hate As reek o' th' rotten fens, whose love I prize As dead carcasses of unburied

That do corrupt my air: I banish you!

His discussion ends: "our response to it may well depend less on our ethical and political dispositions than on the commonness of our own carcasses."

Philip Edwards

Exuberance subdued

The Roaring Girl, by Thomas Middleton and Thomas Dekker. Edited by Andrew Gomme. Ernest Benn, £1.95. ISBN 0 510 34138 1

The Atheist's Tragedy, by Cyril Tournour. Edited by Brian Morris and Roma Gill. Ernest Benn, £1.75. ISBN 0 510 33751 1

The Roaring Girl is a difficult text to edit—racy and colloquial—and Andrew Gomme inspires confidence by acknowledging his own uncertainties. As far as I can see, his annotations leave no sexual innuendo unturned in this Jacobean *Carry on Ringers*.

One curious feature of an otherwise excellent introduction is its contradictory tendency to attribute some of the play's most striking characteristics to Dekker while apparently concluding that the controlling hand was Middleton's. The loose construction, the reconciliation fostered by the upper classes, and above all the genial atmosphere of the play are more typical of Dekker, and it is hard to see any significant support for the contention that the Roaring Girl resembles Middleton's *Blow the Boy Down*. Joanna, unless merely being a woman is resemblance enough. But Moll's masculine dress and behaviour, her energy and her "intellectual and moral originality" are the very antithesis of the conventional femininity and moral hypocrisy of Middleton's tragic heroines. Beatrice-Joanna and Bianca are the descendants of Eve, unresisting victims of their own desires, apparently slipping helplessly into damnation. Moll, on the other hand, challenges convention and dominates the world of the play.

It might be more helpful to suggest that Moll comes across as a woman, not a man. Simon Eyre, the boldest and most forceful of the *Shoemaker's Holiday* gang, then becomes the product of a genuinely creative collaboration between the two dramatists. David Lake's linguistic analysis, which must have appeared too late to be cited, attributes more than half the play to

Dekker, and this seems consistent with the stylistic evidence. Now that comedy is entitled to be festive we need no longer feel that Middleton's acerbity is necessarily a more serious matter than Dekker's anarchic exuberance. The recognition of Dekker's share need not damage the play's critical reputation.

There is nothing anarchic or exuberant about *The Atheist's Tragedy*. For all its lust and murder the play is generally subdued in tone; plain language conveys the central values of Christian Stoicism. If Tournour wrote *The Revenger's Tragedy* he must largely have lost interest by now in rich dramatic language, though there are rare moments of intensity in *The Atheist's Tragedy* (for example, IV, iii, 216-222).

The editors reserve judgment about the authorship of *The Revenger's Tragedy*, and seem rather unhappy with this later play. They blame the inadequacies of the morality tradition for Tournour's failure to present characters who are "integrated psychological entities, responding to their circumstances, and developing to accommodate them". Despite their recognition that the play is in a non-realistic mode — emblematic, patterned and analytical — their apparent hankering after realism leads them to some surprising interpretations. Our admiration for *Leviathan's* responsiveness when men does not necessarily suspend our judgment: morality plays are no less vicious because they are ingenious. If Castiglione appears without much obvious passion it is because she aspires to neo-Stoic patience; similarly, Charlemont's "insensitivity" is a direct expression of his *agathia*, not an indication that Tournour did not bother to develop his character.

The introduction includes a number of stimulating observations and, in general, this is a useful edition, and a good deal cheaper than Irving Ribner's Revels text.

Catherine Belsey

Emotional concerns

The Heart's Events: The Victorian Poetry of Relationships by Patricia A. Ball. Athlone Press, £6.25. ISBN 0 485 11163 2

In *The Heart's Events* Dr Ball examines a number of related aspects of the subject-matter and form of mid-nineteenth century verse: the preoccupation with personal relationships, particularly the impingement of relationships on the individual and the successive changes that relationships undergo over a period of time; the concern for psychological authenticity; and the experimentation with complex poetic forms capable of conveying gradual shifts of feeling. Despite certain limitations of approach, she does it with considerable acuteness and sensitivity.

There are some questionable and unnecessary generalizations about the Victorian poets and their predecessors, and it is a pity that so little use is made of literary-historical evidence such as statements by the poets themselves about their own work, or contemporary reviews and critical essays. The influence of the novel, surely fundamental to mid-nineteenth century poetic experimentation, is virtually ignored: there is only a brief general comparison of the concerns of the poet and the novelist, emphasizing their divergence.

The discussion of particular poems, which occupies most of the book, is often illuminating, though Dr Ball's attempt to relate the particular case to the general pattern is not always convincing, and sometimes one is aware of a certain lack of critical perspective, a tendency to evade critical judgment by means of abstract interpretation. Apart from the occasional verbal pile-up of abstract, inhumanistic, reality of love's incarnation, the style is quite lucid.

Robert Inglesfield

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BOOKS

Conventional

Social Anthropology in Perspective: The Relevance of Social Anthropology
by I. M. Lewis
Penguin, £1.00
ISBN 0 14 02 1915 3

Based on an introductory course of lectures at the London School of Economics, this is (despite surface gloss) a disappointingly old-fashioned and conventional textbook. It is subtitled *The Relevance of Social Anthropology*, and Professor Lewis makes occasional forays into the "anthropological" elucidation of such matters as American reactions to the Vietnam War, "Mario: Puzo's masterpiece," the "Godfather", and student radicalism, a topic which now reeks of nostalgia. These interpolations are rather halfhearted, however, and I cannot imagine that the discussion would persuade anyone that the anthropological version is about to put the journalistic version in its place. For the rest, although religion is treated before economics, there is no real attempt to break the textbook mould established by Professors Bohannan and Malin.

The perspective of the title is also insular, snug and, today, rather tawdry perspective of what used to be called British social anthropology, a once vital tradition now almost dead from inanition. All the old prejudices are carefully handed on. Sociology is about questionnaires and statistics, both notoriously misleading and overblown; American anthropology should be (and is) ignored; and Levi-Strauss and structuralism are to be viewed with grave suspicion. As a final insular touch, Lewis suggests that the work of Levi-Strauss stems directly from that of Radcliffe-Brown and Malinowski, a point of view which is, at least, original, but one which can hardly be presented as dogma when, according to conventional assessments, the main influences are Mauss, Lowie and various linguists, none, alas, British social anthropologists. This, then, is British social anthropology, still marching on, still apparently persuaded that the Royal Anthropological Institute "is without doubt the most prestigious body of its kind in the English-speaking world".

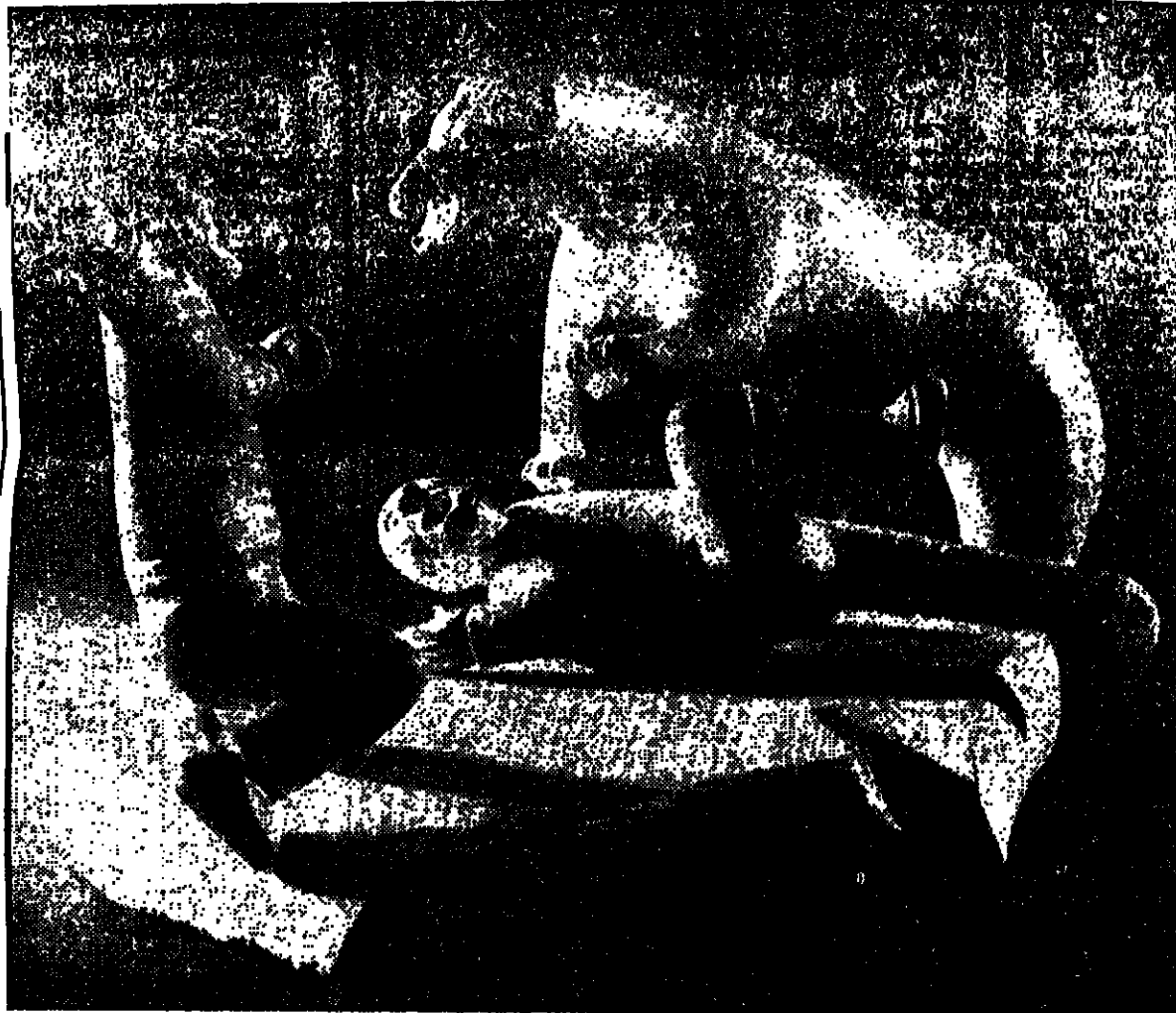
Yet there is very good, internationally minded, work being done by social anthropologists in Britain, and one of the disappointments of this book is that so little modern work is allowed to peek through. Radcliffe-Brown, after all, is the mother's brother, generally regarded as the master's least persuasive thesis, is presented at some length as "one of the most impressive demonstrations of the virtues of this (British-style) contextual, or holistic, approach". There is a section on Indian caste which ignores Professors Dumont and Pocock, and indeed the main tendencies of modern work, and asserts that "over three hundred million Hindus see human society as a composite structure of five interlocking but rigidly demarcated divisions". Network theory does not get a mention. M. G. Smith and Plural Society are also ignored. The book is a very good example of how the anthropological tradition is neglected.

For someone wanting a cheap textbook this provides three interesting chapters on religion, and cosmological theories, although a rather narrow and strongly structuralist position, and proceeds along the well-trodden path through economics (the kula and potlatch, yet again), kinship (not for the supple), and states v. stateless societies.

Adam Kuper

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A stone carving of a man attacking a bear, carved at Repulse Bay, Canada. From The Tribal Eye by David Attenborough, a BBC publication price £7.00. Carvings such as this in the style of the ancient ivory carvings of the Arctic, stem from a tradition which dates back to prehistory. They now represent a method of earning a living to the Eskimos who have settled in permanent villages and abandoned the old hunting style of life.

Against the new egalitarians

Sociology, Equality and Education
by Anthony Flew
Macmillan, £4.95
ISBN 0 333 19092 0

Sociology, Equality and Education consists of seven essays whose unity Flew says in his introduction consists in its "concern for educational standards and a commitment to defend these standards against educationally destructive new egalitarianism". By the "new egalitarianism" Flew means to refer to theses that there are no qualitative differences between individuals, groups or cultures, and that there are no theory or culture-neutral standards of objective knowledge and thus "no real and relevant difference between those qualified to teach and those still under instruction".

In the first essay Flew attacks the assumption that "to be able to ask sociological questions about the forces involved in recognising and maintaining distinctions made in education is to show that these distinctions themselves are problematic". Flew's argument is that knowledge is not a neutral, objective, or value-free thing, but is a social construct. He argues that the "new egalitarianism" is a form of relativism that denies the possibility of objective knowledge. He also argues that the "new egalitarianism" is a form of relativism that denies the possibility of objective knowledge.

Flew's account of the sources of this error is persuasive. It is that it arises from extrapolating from the narrow perspective that there are activities, e.g. marrying or divorcing, which presuppose a grasp of certain concepts on the part of those described as engaging in them. Dogs cannot commit adultery. But it does not follow that unless the sociologists describing these activities possessed certain concepts, they could not be engaged in.

Another source is what Flew dubs the "Bagger-in-Bottle effect". This refers to the way the incidence of

a phenomenon will appear to increase because an intensified effort is made to detect it, e.g. the reported number of homosexual offences in Bogotá rises, but only because a newly-appointed chief Constable "has a thing about queers". From the fact that the reported rate may depend on the method of observation it does not follow that the real rate does.

Flew draws a comparison between his objections to "sociological-criticism" and Lenin's to "Empirio-criticism". The analogy does Flew an injustice and in any case is misleading. The aim of sensationalist reconstruction of science was to free knowledge from ideological derision, not to free it from ideological derision.

It is a mistake to equate the thesis that there can be no knowledge of an objective world (i.e. knowledge which transcends experience) with the thesis that there can be no objective knowledge. When Frank Ramsey said that he did not really believe in astronomy except as a metaphor for the course of human experience he did not mean, nor was he committed to the view that Proxima Centauri may be the star closest to Earth for one person but not necessarily for another.

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Flew's other arguments are ingenious to better purposes. In spite of the occasional rhetorical excess (Flew warns prospective employers of the risk of employing Essex graduates because Flew is not satisfied with the university's arrangements for detecting plagiarism), anyone interested in the role of assessment in education or of the assessment for students' participation in decision-making or where the distinctiveness of academic purposes lies, ought to read what Flew has to say about these matters.

Frank Clift

Modern Italy

Social Structure in Italy: A System
by S. S. Acquaviva and M. E. Nardin
Penguin, £12.00
ISBN 0 85520 044 8

This study by two of leading professors of sociology, and enlarged, based on the original translation by Norman Walker of temporary Italy.

The authors' object is to give a general picture of the structure of Italian society at the same time to show the crisis confronting it and to stand as a crisis within the system. One notable feature of their book is insistence on the factor. Another is that the book is not a study of social structure in Italy, but of the "stratum" is presented.

The work is divided into parts, "Verbs of Action", "The Pyramid of Power", "The Pyramid of Wealth", "The Pyramid of Status", "The Pyramid of Power", "The Pyramid of Wealth", "The Pyramid of Status". The authors' object is to give a general picture of the structure of Italian society at the same time to show the crisis confronting it and to stand as a crisis within the system. One notable feature of their book is insistence on the factor. Another is that the book is not a study of social structure in Italy, but of the "stratum" is presented.

One criticism is that though the book appears to only seven of the very best sources upon which it is based, it is not clear how the authors have continued to be published. The book is a study of social structure in Italy, but of the "stratum" is presented.

Entomology

The Biology of Insects
by F. E. Riebeland
Hutchinson Educational, £4.95 and £2.95
ISBN 0 9 125430 5 and 125421 3

Clearly, the biology of insects cannot be treated comprehensively in one book and only selected aspects of entomology have been considered by Riebeland. These aspects are: the major features of insects, their variety, adaptive radiation, ecology and behaviour, and economic importance. Within each of these sections, however, only certain topics are dealt with, and it is difficult to understand the principles of selection. For example, under major features of structure and physiology, only the cuticle, excretion, flight, and respiration are covered (all of which are dealt with adequately in a number of existing books), while reproduction, digestion, and the nervous system are ignored. The shallow level at which the chosen topics are treated suggests that the reader is expected to have little knowledge of entomology, in which case, the book is not a good one. The section on the biology of insects is of doubtful value.

The preface states that there are many books on identification and general habits. Why, therefore, in a section on the orders with which we are all familiar, draw on the orders of very poor quality, lacking accuracy and symmetry? The chapter on adaptive radiation and the chapter on the principles of selection are of very poor quality, lacking accuracy and symmetry? The chapter on adaptive radiation and the chapter on the principles of selection are of very poor quality, lacking accuracy and symmetry?

The picture presented is of a book which is a study of social structure in Italy, but of the "stratum" is presented. The picture presented is of a book which is a study of social structure in Italy, but of the "stratum" is presented.

Leslie Strong

Among this week's reviewers

Frank Clift is professor of philosophy at the University of Essex; Philip Edwards is King Alfred professor of English literature at the University of Liverpool; John Holloway is professor of modern literature at Cambridge; W. R. Inge is professor of English literature at the University of Edinburgh.

Christopher Seton

Vital organisms

Soil Biology
by Wilhelm Kuhnelt
Paber & Paber, £12.00
ISBN 0 571 09741 3

This is the second edition, rewritten and enlarged, based on the original translation by Norman Walker of temporary Italy. The authors' object is to give a general picture of the structure of Italian society at the same time to show the crisis confronting it and to stand as a crisis within the system. One notable feature of their book is insistence on the factor. Another is that the book is not a study of social structure in Italy, but of the "stratum" is presented.

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C. R. W. Spedding

Algebras

Banach Algebras
by Richard D. Mosak
University of Chicago Press, £2.40
ISBN 0 226 54203 3

It is not difficult to see why the theory of Banach algebras is one of the most popular topics for a postgraduate mathematics course. The subject has connections with many parts of mathematics including operator theory, harmonic analysis and several complex variables; there are applications outside mathematics, notably to quantum theory; but above all the subject is attractive because it has a core of striking results which are attainable in a regular course. The theory is well covered in the literature ranging from brief introductions to excellent standard treatises devoted to the subject.

This book is intended as an introductory text. The main novelty is the emphasis on the topics needed for applications to harmonic analysis. It treats the central topics including the spectral theory, the Gelfand representation theorem, and the standard theory of star algebras. Keeping with its aim, there are chapters on regular commutative algebras and spectral synthesis. The exposition is clear and accurate but rather condensed. As one might expect in a book based on lecture notes, there is rather little in the way of motivation. For these reasons, in spite of the fact that the specific prerequisites are modest, only the best students would find this suitable as a first approach to the subject. Others will prefer to start with a more leisurely account with perhaps less material treated less generally. However, for an intermediate level this book is excellent, particularly for readers with an interest in harmonic analysis.

This book is, therefore, too superficial for undergraduate work, and too incomplete as a basic text in entomology.

J. A. Erdos

BOOKS

Cellular interactions

Receptors and Recognition, volume 1, Series A
edited by P. Cuatrecasas and M. F. Greaves
Chapman & Hall, £4.50
ISBN 0 470 18940 1

Receptors and Recognition is a new series that aims at bringing together the most recent and important information on the process of cellular recognition. Series A, of which the present book is the first volume, contains reviews of general interest to biologists whereas Series B will be devoted to one specialist area such as embryological interactions.

The justification for these books is required if we are to understand the processes by which cells interact with and respond to environmental signals and that such an understanding is crucial to solving the problems in such areas as fertilization, the activity of the nervous system, the regulation of growth and development and the immune response. The series should prove to be an important contribution to scientific literature if the high standard of this volume is maintained.

The scope of the books is illustrated by the opening review of M. F. Greaves, "Cell Surface Receptors: A Biological Perspective" in which the author traces the historical development of our knowledge of how cells respond to signals. Paul Ehrlich is identified as the father figure of receptors and some illustrations from his Royal Society lecture of 1910 are reproduced to demonstrate how remarkably accurate his receptor hypothesis proved to be. After Ehrlich's pioneering work, Greaves follows the parallel development of receptor concepts in fields such as pharmacology, developmental biology and immunology. These have led to the concept of stereospecific receptors binding to regulatory signals that are effective rather than instructive, supporting the Darwinian rather than the Lamarckian view of some early workers.

Greaves' review ends on the theme that immunological studies on lymphocyte cell surfaces will have a big impact on the development of our understanding of the molecular biology of cell interactions, a view echoed by the core-piece of this book which is a review of "Membrane Associated Events in Lymphocyte Activation" by Klaus Roach. This is a detailed examination, with 319 references, of how lymphocytes receive external stimuli and transmit these to the cellular machinery responsible for antibody production and cellular proliferation.

The other two reviews in this volume are "The Evolution of Receptors and Recognition in the Immune System" and "Specificity in Host-Parasite Interaction". In the first of these MacFarlane Burnet discusses the evolution of recognition systems in invertebrates and vertebrates. He argues that defence systems of invertebrates are more akin to inflammatory and repair mechanisms rather than to the true immune responses of vertebrates which include recognition of non-self. He traces the evolution of the major manifestations of immunology: circulating lymphocytes, antibody production, and allograft rejection, through the genetic problems involved in the diversification of antibody production.

In the final review K. N. Brown examines the mechanisms used by five parasites to overcome the defence mechanisms of their hosts. Of particular interest are the mechanisms used to avoid the host's immune responses which include producing new antigenic populations very rapidly in some protozoan and acquiring host antigens in some trematodes. As the editors suggest in the preface: "not only are intercellular recognition phenomena fundamental to all biological phenomena but the rules and rules of the game will be few". These reviews give the impression that they could well be proved right.

D. J. Beadle

Maths and the computer

Introductory Linear Algebra with Applications
by Bernard Kolman
Collier Macmillan, £8.00
ISBN 0 02 365950 5

Introductory Finite Mathematics with Computing
by William S. Dorn and Daniel D. McCracken
Wiley, £7.50 and £5.20
ISBN 0 471 21917 7 and 21921 5

The concepts and techniques of linear algebra are used throughout mathematics and its applications. Kolman's objectives in his text are clearly expressed by the title. He presents the basic ideas directly, up through eigenvalues and diagonalization, omitting those proofs which would slow down a student. Only real scalars are considered and no calculus is used.

The author begins with systems of linear equations, matrices and determinants before introducing 2-vectors, n-vectors and (abstract) vector spaces. He continues naturally to linear transformations and eigenvalues. The basic material is somewhat sketchy and many motivating and illuminating points are omitted. For example, the geometric interpretations of systems of linear equations and of linear transformations are omitted, and the algebra of linear transformations is not treated.

Matrix multiplication is never motivated by the composition of linear transformations. There are sufficient examples for the covered material. Having pared down the theory, the last 40 per cent of the text is devoted to applications and the numerical and computational aspects of linear algebra, which are rarely covered in such texts. Since calculus is not assumed, the applications are in the "now applied mathematics". The applications are linear programming and the simplex method, linear geometry, quadratic

forms, graph theory, theory of games, least squares and linear economic models. Though sketchy, these sections give a good feeling of the uses of linear algebra. A final chapter introduces the standard computational techniques of linear algebra.

This book could supplement a level mathematics, but would be of little use in a university mathematics course, though some applications may be pedagogically useful. However, it could easily be used for teaching computer scientists, economists, sociologists, etc. who need an introduction to linear algebra, though the lecturer may need to flesh out its skeletal presentation.

Dorn and McCracken are well known for their texts on computer languages and their book shows the organization and polish characteristic of them. The book is for a similar readership to Kolman's—biologists, economists, business students, etc. who need an introduction to mathematical thinking and computing. It could also be used as an introduction to BASIC programming and its applications. The prerequisites are minimal—the authors avoid complex numbers.

After an introduction to recurrence relations (=difference equations), the elements of BASIC are presented. The rest of the text comprises equal thirds on recurrence relations, probability and linear algebra. The development is discursive, with numerous examples, and does not go deeply into any subject. Each chapter is consolidated by a case study, drawn from psychology, economics, biology, business, medicine, gambling or demography, in which a real problem is translated into a mathematical model which is implemented on the computer. The results are used to criticize and modify the model.

David Singmaster

METHUEN

THE LIBRARY OF NUMISMATICS
General Editor: PHILIP GRIERSON
ARCHAIC AND CLASSICAL GREEK

COINS
COLIN M KRAAY

This is the first comprehensive survey of Greek coinage to be published for over forty years, during which time great advances have been made in numismatic research and many long-accepted views have been questioned or overturned. Dr Kraay describes the development of Greek coinage from its beginnings in the seventh century B.C. to the end of the empire of Alexander the Great at the end of the fourth century. He gives separate and parallel historical treatment to the coinage of each geographical area, and in a number of general chapters he unites these themes into a picture of the western world, the form of which conditioned that of all later coinages. Wherever possible he illustrates the story of change in coinage, the coinage itself illustrates, indeed, the change itself illustrates which arose out of the empire of

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[illegible]

The mini can either send data to a network of minis (distributed processing) or be linked to a mainframe for applications (a "front end").

In computing, the source of technology is the pace of change. Given the rapid pace of change, minis will probably become established, only to be ousted by computers.

The author is director of National Development Programs in Computer Assisted Learning.

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Universities

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3. **LECTURER IN THE CHEMISTRY DEPARTMENT**
Applicants should hold a good first degree and a higher qualification. Postgraduate research and/or teaching experience in Chemistry and experience in Teacher Education will be an added advantage.

4. **LECTURERS IN THE BOTANY DEPARTMENT**
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Applicants should have a good postgraduate degree, preferably a Ph.D., and be able to teach and undertake research in a major field of Botany. Preference will be given to those with experience in Microbiology or Plant Ecology.

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Applicants should give three names of academic referees and their addresses and at the same time request them to send their references direct to the Registrar without delay.

For applications, see page 28, column 2, under 'Universities'.

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LECTURER IN SOCIAL WORK/COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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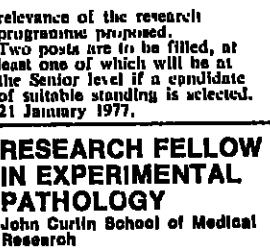
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ABERDEEN

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UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

RESEARCH FELLOW IN BIBLICAL STUDIES
Department of Studies in Religion
Qualified to teach Hebrew; the history, literature and religion of ancient Israel; and early Judaism. Ability to teach and supervise students in the Department of Studies in Religion. To take up duties as soon as possible but not later than 1 July 1977. 14 January 1977.

2. **LECTURER IN PHYSICS DEPARTMENT**
tenable as soon as possible.
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3. **LECTURER IN THE CHEMISTRY DEPARTMENT**
Applicants should hold a good first degree and a higher qualification. Postgraduate research and/or teaching experience in Chemistry and experience in Teacher Education will be an added advantage.

4. **LECTURERS IN THE BOTANY DEPARTMENT**
tenable from January, 1977.
Applicants should have a good postgraduate degree, preferably a Ph.D., and be able to teach and undertake research in a major field of Botany. Preference will be given to those with experience in Microbiology or Plant Ecology.

5. **LECTURER IN ZOOLOGY DEPARTMENT**
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Universities continued

WYE COLLEGE University of London PRINCIPAL

The present Principal, Dr H. S. Daring, CBE, BSc, PhD, HonDSc, will be relinquishing his post on 30 September, 1977 to take up the appointment of first Director-General of the International Centre for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas.

The Governing Body of the College invites applications from suitably qualified persons for the post of Principal. The Governing Body would also welcome nominations from organisations or individuals of persons who might be considered for the appointment.

Initial inquiries, or nominations, which will be treated in the strictest confidence, should be addressed as follows: to Mr R. M. Older, Provost and Chairman of the Governors, Penstock Hall, East Twickenham, in Ashford, Kent.

THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HIGHER EDUCATION, LIMERICK, IRELAND

FRENCH, ASSISTANT LECTURER A53-010

Fluency in the language is essential, and experience of audio-visual techniques and language laboratory work would be a strong advantage. Candidates should also have a special interest in the field of contemporary France. Person appointed will be involved in teaching students majoring in European Studies, as well as those majoring in other areas.

SALARY: £3,914-£4,848.
Additional annual allowances of £100 per marriage and £70 per child together with other benefits. Application material available from the Personnel Office, National Institute for Higher Education, Limerick, Ireland, to be completed and returned by Friday, 26 November, 1976.

UNIVERSITY OF MALTA

Applications are invited for the post of full-time

LECTURER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

The applicant should preferably be able to teach functional analysis to MSc level, and will be expected to engage in research. The main research interests of the present members of the Department are: Functional Analysis, Group Theory, and Mathematical Physics. Salary scale: £1,870-£21,840 p.a. (K1,870-£21,840 p.a. for married couples). The British Government may supplement salaries in range of £2,444-£2,976 p.a. (aftering) for single appointees (normally free of all tax and usually reviewed annually) and provides children's education allowances and holiday pay.

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Medical Research Council

Medical Sociology Unit

Aberdeen

RESEARCH SOCIOLOGIST

Applications are invited for the post of Research Sociologist. The person appointed will join a small research team to examine the social structure of the medical profession and its relationship to the medical and community management of non-acute illness.

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